

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

MARCH 14, 2001

IN RE:

UNITED TELEPHONE - SOUTHEAST  
2000 ANNUAL PRICE REGULATION  
FILING

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DOCKET NO. 00-00949

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ORDER APPROVING PRICE REGULATION FILING

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This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") at the regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on December 19, 2000 for consideration of United Telephone – Southeast's ("UTSE") 2000 Annual Price Regulation (or "price cap") Filing (the "Filing").

**UTSE's Filing**

On October 23, 2000, UTSE submitted its 2000 Filing for approval by the Authority. This Filing represents UTSE's calculations of its 2000 Price Regulation Index ("PRI") and Service Price Index ("SPI") pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-209, UTSE's price regulation plan,<sup>1</sup> and the price cap methodology approved by the Authority.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> UTSE elected to become a price regulated company pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-209 on June 16, 1995; accordingly, UTSE submitted a price regulation plan, which the Authority approved on September 20, 1995.

<sup>2</sup> In Authority Docket No. 96-01423, at the Authority's request, UTSE and the Consumer Advocate filed a joint stipulation on January 27, 1997 in which they agreed to a methodology and formula for use in calculating the amount of any price increases by UTSE under its price regulation plan. The stipulation was signed by representatives of the Consumer Advocate and UTSE as well as Citizens Telecommunications of Tennessee, Inc., BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., and AT&T of the South Central States, Inc. In its Final Order in Docket No. 96-01423, entered on September 4, 1997, the Authority approved the joint stipulation.

UTSE's Filing does not propose to change any of its rates for basic or non-basic service. UTSE's Filing was originally submitted on October 23, 2000, but UTSE later revised its Filing on November 27, 2000 to correct several rates that were incorrectly priced in UTSE's revenue calculations. Specifically, several rate changes that were approved by the Authority during 2000 were not reflected in UTSE's price cap calculations for the year ending June 2000. Upon review, UTSE has included the correct rates and volumes in its revised Filing of November 27, 2000.

### **Findings**

After careful review of the record in this matter, the Authority finds and concludes that UTSE's Filing, as amended by UTSE's revised Filing of November 27, 2000, should be approved. The Authority finds that UTSE's Filing complies with Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-209 and the approved methodology, as well as all Authority orders concerning UTSE's price cap filings in prior years.

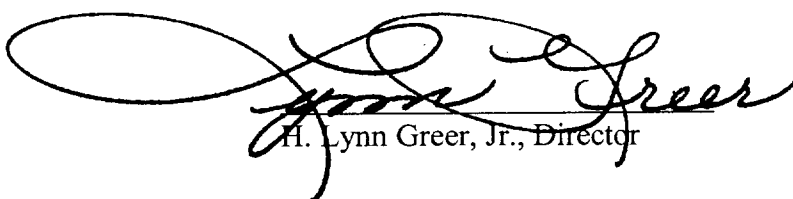
Upon review of the Filing and of the entire record in this matter, at the December 19, 2000 Authority Conference, the Authority unanimously approved UTSE's Filing.

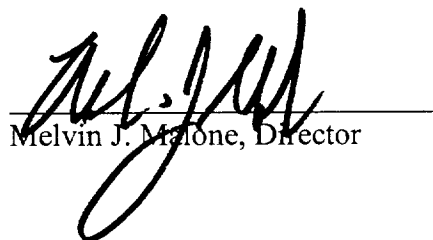
### **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

1. The 2000 Annual Price Regulation Filing of United Telephone – Southeast, as amended, is approved;
2. Any party aggrieved with the Authority's decision in this matter may file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Authority within fifteen (15) days from the date of this Order; and


3. Any party aggrieved with the Authority's decision in this matter has the right of judicial review by filing a Petition for Review in the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Middle Section, within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order.

  
Sara Kyle, Chairman

  
H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director

  
Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:

  
K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary